

amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID No: 7, and wherein said DNA is selected from the group consisting of:

(a) isolated DNA which encodes a TADG-14 protein, wherein said DNA has the sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 6;

(b) isolated DNA which hybridizes at high stringency conditions to the antisense complement of the isolated DNA of (a) above, wherein high stringency conditions are characterized as membrane washing at high temperature and low salt concentration functionally equivalent to 0.1 x SSC at 65°C, and [which] wherein said DNA encodes a TADG-14 protein; and

(c) isolated DNA differing from the isolated DNAs of (a) and (b) above in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and which encodes a TADG-14 protein.

REMARKS

The 35 USC §112 Rejections

Claims 1, 4, 6-8, and 11 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as unpatentable because the specification does not reasonably define "medium or high stringency conditions." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to define the stringency conditions as washing at low salt concentration and high temperature functionally equivalent to 0.1x SSC at 65°C. This amendment adds no new matter as it is supported by page 17, lines 9-16 of the specification which state:

By "high stringency" is meant DNA hybridization and wash conditions characterized by high temperature and low salt concentration, e.g., wash conditions of 65°C at a salt concentration of approximately 0.1 x SSC, or the functional equivalent thereof. For example, high stringency conditions may include hybridization at about 42°C in the presence of about 50% formamide; a first wash at about 65°C with about 2 x SSC containing 1% SDS; followed by a second wash at about 65°C with about 0.1 x SSC.

Since claim 1 has been amended to define high stringency hybridization conditions, the Applicants respectfully request that this 35 USC §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 1, 4, 6-8, and 11 be withdrawn.

This is intended to be a complete response to the Final Office Action mailed May 17, 1999 and the telephone conversation of June 25, 1999. If any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record for immediate resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Benjamin Aaron Adler, Ph.D., J.D.
Registration No. 35,423
Counsel for Applicants

McGREGOR & ADLER, LLP
8011 Candle Lane
Houston, Texas 77071
(713) 777-2321